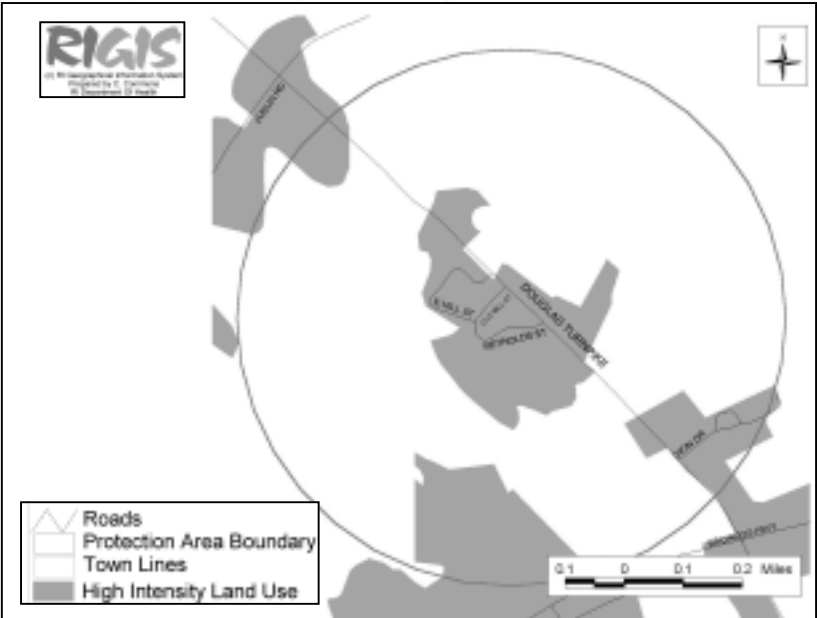


- ▲ The majority of the wellhead protection area consists of undeveloped forestland.
- ▲ The town can implement land use controls and programs to protect this source protection area from future high-intensity development.
- ▲ Residents can follow the guidelines on the back to reduce the impact of common household contaminants.

**Table 1.** High-intensity land uses identified within the source water protection area that have the potential to contaminate drinking water.

Land Use Category	Associated Contaminants <sup>1</sup>	% of Protection Area
% Residential	Nutrients, Pathogens, VOCs, SOC <sub>s</sub>	10.6%
% Commercial, Industrial, Institutional	VOC <sub>s</sub> , SOC <sub>s</sub> , Solvents, Inorganics	10.8%
% Intensive Agriculture	Nutrients, Pathogens, VOC <sub>s</sub> , SOC <sub>s</sub>	8.3%

<sup>1</sup>Potential contaminants include nutrients (nitrates and phosphorus from fertilizers and human and animal waste), pathogens (bacteria, viruses, and other microorganisms that can cause disease); volatile organic compounds (VOCs) found in fuels and solvents; synthetic organic compounds (SOCs), such as pesticides and plastics; and inorganics, including metals and other substances that can harm human health in high concentrations.



**Figure 2.** Areas of high-intensity land use are shown in dark gray.

**What You Can Do To Protect Water Quality**

**Public Water Suppliers:**

- ▲ Implement all recommendations in the latest Sanitary Survey.
- ▲ Protect undeveloped land within the wellhead or watershed protection area. Work with municipal boards and government as needed to implement land use protection measures and education programs.
- ▲ Post signs alerting public to Wellhead or Watershed Protection Area.
- ▲ Inspect water supply and protection area regularly for potential pollution sources.

**Municipal Boards and Government:**

- ▲ Develop a groundwater protection plan and ordinance and supporting protective zoning regulations, such as limits of paved surface areas within new developments
- ▲ Incorporate groundwater and source water protection goals into the Comprehensive Plan.
- ▲ Implement on-site wastewater management or sewer maintenance plans and ordinances.
- ▲ Develop programs for land acquisition, conservation easements, or other critical lands protection.
- ▲ Adopt a stormwater management plan and ordinance.
- ▲ Establish a community education and outreach program that promotes residential pollution prevention and best management practices for the Public Works Department.

**Residents:**

- ▲ Inspect septic systems annually and pump as needed.
- ▲ Replace/repair cesspools and failing septic systems.
- ▲ Reduce fertilizer and pesticide use.
- ▲ Reduce stormwater runoff by limiting paved surface areas and maintaining good vegetative cover.
- ▲ Pick up after your pets.
- ▲ Properly use, store, and dispose of hazardous products.
- ▲ Properly maintain motor vehicles and fuel storage tanks. Consider replacing underground storage tanks with properly contained above-ground tanks.
- ▲ Check all municipal laws that may apply.

**Farmers and Landowners:** *Develop conservation plans on agricultural and forest lands that:*

- ▲ Reduce soil erosion, sediment, and stormwater runoff.
- ▲ Address proper nutrient, manure, pest, and irrigation water management.
- ▲ Address proper fuel storage and equipment maintenance.
- ▲ Conserve water, improve soil health, and protect surrounding natural resources.
- ▲ Check all federal and state laws that apply.

**Commercial and Industrial Businesses:**

*Adhere to all laws, regulations, and recommended practices for:*

- ▲ Hazardous waste management
- ▲ Above- and underground storage tanks
- ▲ Wastewater discharge
- ▲ Floor drains
- ▲ Proper training for all employees

**For More Information**

R.I. Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water Quality,  
(401) 222-6867, [www.healthri.org/environment/dwq/Home.htm](http://www.healthri.org/environment/dwq/Home.htm)  
URI CE Home\*A\*Syst Program (401) 874-5398, [www.uri.edu/ce/wq](http://www.uri.edu/ce/wq)  
URI CE Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (401) 874-2138, [www.uri.edu/ce/wq](http://www.uri.edu/ce/wq)  
Local Municipal Boards and Government, contact town/city hall  
R.I. DEM Office of Water Resources (401) 222-4700, [www.state.ri.us/DEM/programs/benviron/water/index.htm](http://www.state.ri.us/DEM/programs/benviron/water/index.htm)  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and Conservation District Offices,  
(401) 828-1300, [www.ni.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ni.nrcs.usda.gov)

